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REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are pending. Claims 5, 31-37, and 46 have been canceled. Claims 1, 11, 17, 27, 38, and 47 have been amended.

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the above claim amendments and the arguments.

The undersigned attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues, and to work with the Examiner toward placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 7, 2009 Reg. No. 40,137

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